NOV 1 7 2003 Applicant:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HIRAMOTO et al.

Examiner:

Unknown

10/688,147

Group Art Unit:

Unknown

Filed:

October 16, 2003

Docket:

10873.805USD1

Title:

MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AND

METHOD FOR FORMING A COMPOUND MAGNETIC THIN FILM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 13, 2003

Name: Ramifer Holden

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

☐ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

☑ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 8 References

Other: Copy of Korean Office Action

Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300 By: Name: Douglas P. Mueller

Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

HIRAMOTO et al.

Examiner:

Unknown

Serial No.:

10/688,147

Group Art Unit:

Unknown

Filed:

October 16, 2003

Docket No.:

10873.805US01

Title:

MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING

THE SAME, AND METHOD FOR FORMING A COMPOUND

MAGNETIC THIN FILM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 13, 2003.

Name: Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Japanese reference 2000-91667 corresponds with U.S. 6,340,533.

Korean reference 1998-71112 corresponds with Japanese reference 10-223942 and U.S. 6,074,707.

Japanese reference 2000-22236 corresponds with U.S. 6,359,760.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to

establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

(612) 332/\$300

Dated: November 13, 2003

By:

Douglas P. Mueller

Reg No. 30,300

DPM/jh

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

FORM 1449* OIP INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	Docket Number: Application Number: 10873.805USD1 10/688,147			
IN AN APPLICATION	Applicant: HIRAMOTO et al.			
NOV. 1 7 2003 (Use several sheets if necessary)	Filing Date: October 16, 2003	Group Art Unit: Unknown		

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			U.S. PATENT DOCUME	NTS		-	
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS		G DATE OPRIATE
	6,340,533	01.2002	UENO et al.				
	6,074,707	06.2000	Nakazawa et al.			1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	6,359,760	03.2002	Kanno				
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	·	FO	REIGN PATENT DOCUM	1ENTS		-	
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	2000-91667	03.2000	Japan			Abstract	
	10-223942	08.1998	Japan			Abstract	
	2000-22236	01.2000	Japan			Abstract	
	1998-71112	10.1998	Korea		-	See IDS	
	OTHER	DOCUMENT	'S (Including Author, Title,	Date, Pertinent P	ages, Etc.)	•	·
	"Exchange (invited)",	e-biased magne Journal of App	tic tunnel junctions and app plied Physics, Vol. 85, No. 8	lication to nonvo 3, April 15, 1999,	latile magnetic ra Parkin et al. pp. 5	ndom access n 5828-5833	nemory
							**

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.